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101622Z

CITY

18 MARCH 1968

COUNTRY: LAOS

DATE: 25 FEBRUARY - 1 MARCH 1968

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF AIR STRIKES ON ENEMY

FORCES PREPARING TO ATTACK PHOU PHA THI, SITE 65,
AND TRYING CONTACT IN THE AREA

ACCT: LAOS, VIENTIANE (18 MARCH 1968) FIELD 404
SOURCE: [REDACTED]

1. ON 29 FEBRUARY AN AUTO-DEFENSE DE CHOC (ADC) COMPANY AT HOUEN VATOR (UX 69742) REPORTED ABOUT 30 PATHET LAO TROOPS IN THE VICINITY OF UX 69755. SHORTLY AFTER, GROUND FORCES PARSED THE POSITION FOR ATTACKING AIRCRAFT. AN ADC PATROL MOVED INTO THE AREA AFTER THE AIRSTRIKE AND COUNTED FOUR DEAD AND 6 PROBABLE ENEMY SOLDIERS WOUNDED. ADC TROOPS RECOVERED TWO RIFLES, ONE LIGHT MACHINE GUN, ONE NOTE BOOK AND OTHER FIELD GEAR.

2. ON 29 FEBRUARY AIR STRIKES IN THE PHOU OEN DIN (UX 7561)

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AREA DAMAGED OR DESTROYED TWO BULLDOZERS AND KILLED FOUR NORTH VIETNAMESE AND FOUR LAO PATHET LAO. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WERE BULLDOZER OPERATORS. THE PATHET LAO WERE MEMBERS OF THE MAINTENANCE CREW. WORK STOPPED ON THE ROAD ON 1 MARCH AND WAS TO BE RESUMED AFTER NEW BULLDOZERS ARRIVED. AN AERIAL OBSERVER REPORTED THAT AFTER THE 29 FEBRUARY STRIKE THERE WERE TWO SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS AT 0H 882592, THE POSSIBLE LOCATION OF THE BULLDOZERS.

3. AFTER AN AMBUSH OF AN ENEMY UNIT IN WHICH THEY USED MINES AT 0H 730570 TO KILL FIVE ENEMY SOLDIERS, MEMBERS OF LAO ARMED FORCES VOLUNTEER COMPANY (CV) 261 OBSERVED AN ENEMY UNIT BURNING WHAT APPEARED TO BE A STACK OF BODIES. MEMBERS OF CV 261 BELIEVED THE ENEMY DEAD WERE CASUALTIES FROM A RECENT AIR STRIKE. AT 1300 HOURS ON 29 FEBRUARY CV 261 AMBUSHED A 56-MAN ENEMY UNIT WITH MINES IN THE VICINITY OF 0H 885603 AND KILLED SIX OF THE ENEMY.

4. ON 29 FEBRUARY AIR STRIKES IN THE VICINITY OF BAN HOUEI MAO (0H 7339) DESTROYED A LARGE NUMBER OF ROCKETS. (FIELD COMMENT: AN AERIAL OBSERVER DESCRIBED AIR STRIKES ON 0H 733326 ON 29 FEBRUARY AS RESULTING IN HEAVY EXPLOSIONS WHICH

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LASTED FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES AND MEDIUM EXPLOSIONS WHICH LASTED FOR ABOUT 45 MINUTES. APPARENTLY THE STRIKES WERE OF AN AMMUNITION DEPOT. A PATHET LAO DESCRIBED THE ROCKETS TO THE WIFE OF A VILLAGE CHIEF WHO WAS IN THE AREA ON 1 MARCH. FROM THEIR DESCRIPTION THE ROCKETS COULD HAVE BEEN 140MM ROCKET.

5. ON 25 FEBRUARY THE EVENT CONSCRIPTED 480 VILLAGERS FROM VILLAGE LOCATED IN 8153 TO CARRY RICE AND AMMUNITION FROM UN 8151 TO 8376. ON 26 FEBRUARY 26 PAINET LAO FROM UN 8371 ARRIVED AT UN 8263 AND CONSCRIPTED 48 KILOGRAMS OF RICE, ONE PIG AND EIGHT HENS FROM THE VILLAGERS, WHOM THEY THEN FORCED TO CARRY THE COMMODITIES BACK TO UN 8151.

6. AT 1200 HOURS ON 29 FEBRUARY ENEMY TROOPS AT
FM 743658 FIRED FIVE 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS AT A GUERRILLA
POSITION AT FM 7654. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

7. ON 1 MARCH A COMPANY OF REG REGIMENT LAO
AND NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY TROOPS WAS DISPOSED AT UN 732392
AND UN 730569. A FIELD HOSPITAL WITH ONE DOCTOR
WAS AT UN 737568.

S. FIELD DISENT: STATE APPT AIR USPACV 7TH AIR FORCE
EUROPEAN PACAF PACAF AIRCRAFT

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